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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Attorney Docket No. 53394.000607

14-603/CO
11/21/02
W. Hart

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :)
Douglas R. FREDERISY)
Serial No.: 10/046,726)
Filed: January 17, 2002)
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
ASSEMBLING ABSORBENT GARMENTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to any office action in the above-referenced patent application, please amend the patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please enter the following amendment to the specification. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, a marked-up copy of the amended paragraph is provided herewith as Appendix A.

Please replace the paragraph at Page 23, lines 4 - 18 with the following paragraph:

-- Embodiments of the present invention may be adapted to operate in different positions on an absorbent garment manufacturing line. For example, as shown in Figure 12, a number of air applicators may be used during the formation of absorbent cores 1016. In the embodiment of Figure 12, a tissue supply 1200 is conveyed by a vacuum drum 1202 into a core forming chamber 1204, in which particulate and fibrous material that form the absorbent cores 1006 are pulled onto the tissue supply 1200 by a

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